

McDonnell Douglas IBM SIG Newsletter

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10
P X

RCC
161.

- if undeliverable,
return to:

K. Casey
N902/B280/1/E2

FLACHSBART, Barry
225/301/2E/279

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, *AUGUST 18, 1987*

5:30 P.M.

Bldg 270E, Lev 5, Rm 579

(AUS Control Room)

NEXT MEETING: The vendor will come and talk to us about Xerox's Ventura Desk-top Publishing system. He will demonstrate the software at the meeting. A number of the PC magazines have reviewed this system and have given it high marks as being a very good one.

LAST MEETING: The IBM SIG needs a couple of representatives for the Vendor show in the fall. Please contact Larry Nelson. He will tailor a job to fit your available time and inclination. We would like to see some new faces doing some of the work and this is your chance to work with some very good people.

The diskettes arrived for the Group Diskette Buy. Most people were there and received their disks. All extras were sold at that meeting.

A couple of communications programs, such as QMODEM were demonstrated. We were shown how to download files from the Bulletin Board.

Next Month we will have an article on FirstCADD by Generic Software Inc. Ron Robinson wrote the article for the ST SIG but he has consented to let us print it also. He has the software on an MSDOS pc at work and on an Atari ST at home. Both can read the other's diskettes so he can work on the same drawing at work and at home.

Steve Diter wants a used monitor (prefers amber) for an IBM PC. Contact him at E261/598/Lv2D/MsS53 in St. Charles.

The editor apologises to someone. I remember someone giving me something to put into the newsletter at the last meeting. I lost it. I apologise. Please bring it to the next meeting.

Using DEBUG to Identify the COM and LPT "Ports" *

Terry D. Mueller
June 18, 1987

The DOS DEBUG command can be used to determine the number and "name" of the COM ("Asynch"/"Serial") and LPT (Parallel Printer) "ports" installed on your IBM/MSDOS machine.

Through Version 3.2 of DOS, two (2) COM ports and three (3) Parallel Printer ports are recognized -- COM1 and COM2 and LPT1, LPT2, and LPT3.

The existence of these "ports" is determined by DOS when the system is started ("booted"). Their internal "address" is recorded at a specific location in DOS and can be displayed by the use of the DEBUG.COM file provided as part of your DOS diskette(s). This file must be accessible from the DOS prompt.

At the DOS prompt, enter ... DEBUG thus:

A:>debug

[DEBUG displays - ; enter ... d 40:00 thus:]

-d 40:00

[DEBUG displays the following -- I have underlined]
[the relevant areas to be considered]

```
0040:0000  F8 03 00 00 00 00 00 00-78 03 00 00 00 00 00 00  .....x.....
0040:0010  21 42 B0 00 02 00 00 00-00 00 3C 00 3C 00 0D 1C  !B.....<<...
0040:0020  64 20 65 12 62 30 75 16-67 22 0D 1C 64 20 20 39  d e.b0u.g"..d 9
0040:0030  34 05 30 0B 3A 27 30 0B-30 0B 0D 1C 63 2E 01 00  4.0.: '0.0...c...
0040:0040  F7 00 4B 00 11 F5 00 A2-20 03 50 00 00 10 00 00  ..K..... .P.....
0040:0050  00 08 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  .....
0040:0060  07 06 00 D4 03 29 01 B3-02 04 17 00 2B 83 0E 00  .....)......+...
0040:0070  00 00 00 12 00 02 00 00-14 14 14 14 01 01 01 01  .....
```

-q [DEBUG is waiting for you again; enter Q]

A:>

The first four (4) underlined characters (F8 and 03), are actually the DOS address "03F8" and points to the COM1 port; if a second COM port is available, it would be displayed as the next four (4) characters.

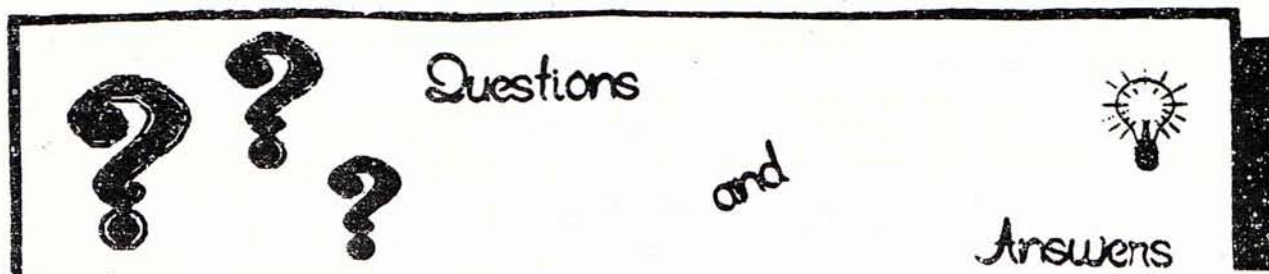
Here they are 00 00; there is no second COM port. However, if the second COM port was COM2, it would be F8 02 ("02F8").

Likewise, the "78 03" indicates that the first, and in this case only, parallel printer port is LPT1. Additional parallel printer ports would follow in the list.

If there ever is a question about how many, or which, serial and parallel ports are installed, use DEBUG for the answer.

Try it; you can't hurt anything.

* Not-necessarily-technically-correct explanation,
but close enough.



All input on any medium (disk or handwritten copy) is welcome and appreciated. All material must include your name, company address, and work phone number, but identity will be withheld upon request. Please reference the question number when sending a reply. Send inquiries and replies to Q & A, c/o K. Casey N902/B280/L1/E2 232-2521.

QUESTIONS:

801 Does anyone know of a good Statistics package for an MSDOS pc. Some people in Terry Mueller's department asked him for the names of any good ones. They need to purchase a fairly decent one. If anyone has experience with a statistics package through their work, please contact Terry Mueller (N680, B281, L3).

802 The SIG is looking into purchasing some type of Display device so that when giving demonstrations, more people will be able to see the CRT display. We're looking for one under \$1000. Someone mentioned the name Telex Magnalite as a possibility.

803 Paul Wegman (retired) has a televideo PC-XT. If you have one, please contact him at 946-2602. He has some questions.

FIDO10 ACCESS - FIDO10 operates 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week.
 6:00 PM to 10:30 PM - reserved exclusively for MDC-RCC members.
 2:00 AM to 5:30 AM - system maintenance and mail activities.
 MDC St. Louis tel.nbr. 232-6881; Required Commo parameters:
 No Parity, 8 Data Bits and 1 Stop Bit.

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 Send Change of Address notice to John Wetter, L869/B302/1E. Please include your RCC membership number, Primary Sig, new address and telephone number.

IBM-SIG DISK LIBRARY REQUEST

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

I WISH A COPY OF THE FOLLOWING DISKETTE(S):

_____ # _____ # _____ # _____ # _____ # _____ # _____ # _____
 Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ and _____ formatted diskettes.
 (Note: Label the diskettes before sending them if you want them labeled.)

SEND TO: FRANK BROACH 253/B101/L2/Rm48